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PATENT

02581-P0204A WWW/TMO

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | Klaus M. Irion | |
| Serial No.: 09/488,500 | Conf. No.: 4514 | Filing Date: January 20, 2000 |
| Title of Application: | Endoscopic Instrument For Performing Endoscopic Procedures | |
| Group Art Unit: 3739 | Examiner: Denise M. Pothier | |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

APR 09 2003

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed December 4, 2002 and is being filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination and the accompanying fee. Also filed herewith is a Petition for a one-month extension of time and accompanying fee. Please enter this Response to Official Action in the above-referenced application. Applicant believes that no additional fee is due in connection with the filing of this Response. However, if any fee is due please charge Deposit Account No. 19-4516.

Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents; Washington, DC 20231.

APRIL
March 1, 2003


Linda A. Ferranti